

**IOWA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES DIVISION**

MINUTES OF THE UTILITIES BOARD

A meeting was held on January 19, 2016, commencing at 9:00 a.m. in the Iowa Utilities Board (IUB) Hearing Room, 1375 East Court Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa. Board Members attending were Libby Jacobs and Nick Wagner.

Board Member Jacobs asked if there was any discussion on the consent items, including the previous month's meeting minutes, and being none, the Board unanimously approved the December 15, 2015, meeting minutes as well as all other consent items.

Deputy Executive Secretary Judi Cooper provided the monthly financial reports and noted the Board's request for budget appropriation with the Department of Management for the outside services budget, was approved.

Board Staff Amy Christensen provided an update on the Clean Power Plan activities. She highlighted staff members and their roles on the IUB Environmental team. She summarized the proposed timeline and Board Member Jacobs' involvement with MSEER. Staff is working with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) to update the Congressional staff on Iowa's Clean Power Plan compliance. Board Member Wagner asked if the IUB staff anticipates legislative changes and for clarification on the legislature's involvement in the process. Amy was not aware of any changes at this time or if they anticipate any upcoming changes. Board Member Jacobs summarized the processes for MSEER filing comments on the proposed Clean Power Plan. Board Staff Scott Bents provided an update on the OMS-MISO workshops and involvement with the Clean Power Plan. He is working with OMS-MISO to build a state-level model based feedback from workshops. Board Member Jacobs asked if he knew the assumption types when building the models. Scott confirmed they did take assumption types into consideration. Board Member Wagner asked if Scott plans to review the model on a wider scope. Scott confirmed this is part of the plan. Board Member Jacobs confirmed that the DNR is relying on the IUB to provide all modeling, as they do not have the capability to complete.

Board Chief Operating Officer Cecil Wright provided an update on docket HLP-2014-0001. Board deliberations are scheduled for February 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th. These will be open meetings for the public to attend.

Board Staff Don Stursma summarized a letter from PHMSA regarding One Call Audit. Don confirmed it may take 5 years to improve the process as there has not been an audit required on the state's damage enforcement. This process will require rule making and legislative changes. Board Member Jacobs asked if there were any exceptions to the rule and Don confirmed that agriculture land is considered an exception. Board Member Wagner asked if the process was similar to other states. Don confirmed no other state has gone through the audit process.

Board Staff Cynthia Munyon provided an update on the 2016 Iowa TQ Pipeline Safety Conference being held on February 23rd - 25th at the Jordan Creek Holiday Inn. The three-day Conference is an opportunity for pipeline operators, gas industry personnel, management, engineers, superintendents, maintenance personnel of natural gas systems and local officials to receive updates on the latest state and federal pipeline safety regulations.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m. Recorded by Marie Jeanblanc.

Approved at the February 18, 2016, Board meeting.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Geri D. Huser
Chair

ATTEST:

/s/ Trisha M. Quijano
Executive Secretary, Designee